

PATENT  
674525-2002AMENDMENT

Please amend the application without prejudice, without admission, without surrender of subject matter and without intention of creating any estoppel as to equivalents, as follows.

In the Claims

1. (Cancelled)
2. (Currently amended) A method for producing a regulatory lymphocyte for promoting tolerance to an allergen or antigen, according to claim 1 wherein the method comprises:
  - a) incubating an antigen presenting cell (APC) with a lymphocyte or APC obtained from a human or animal patient with an APC in presence of (i) a composition capable of upgrading expression of an endogenous Notch or Notch ligand in the lymphocyte and/or APC and (ii) the allergen or antigen, thereby producing a primed APC; and
  - b) contacting a lymphocyte with the primed APC, thereby producing a regulatory lymphocyte.
3. (Cancelled)
4. (Currently amended) [[A]] The method according to claim 2, wherein the lymphocyte is method for producing ex vivo a T cell having tolerance to an allergen or antigen which method comprises incubating a T cell obtained from a human or animal patient with an antigen presenting cell (APC) in the presence of (i) a composition capable of upregulating expression of an endogenous Notch or Notch ligand in the APC and/or T cell and (ii) the allergen or antigen.
5. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 2, any one of claims 1 to 4, wherein the composition comprises a substance capable of upregulating expression of an endogenous Notch or [[a]] Notch ligand comprises a substance selected from the group consisting of polypeptides and fragments thereof, linear peptides, cyclic peptides, synthetic compounds, and natural compounds, including low molecular weight organic compounds and low molecular weight or inorganic compounds.
6. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 2, any one of claims 1 to 4, wherein the composition comprises a polypeptide selected from the group consisting of Noggin, Chordin, Follistatin, Xnr3, FGF and derivatives, fragments, variants and homologues thereof, and immunosuppressive cytokines, or and a combination thereof.